

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CAIRO 15256 161558Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 ACDA-12 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /094 W
-----100746 170906Z /15

R 161545Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0434
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 15256

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PBOR EG LE XF
SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN CONCERN ABOUT LEBANON

SUMMARY. PRESS JUNE 16 CONVEYS MESSAGE THAT INSTABILITY
IN LEBANON DANGER TO ARAB WORLD AND ALLOWS UNSCRUPULOUS
OUTSIDERS, ESPECIALLY ISRAELIS, TO EXPLOIT SITUATION.
COMMENTARIES SUGGEST LEBANESE GETTING WHAT THEY DESERVE
AND CRITICIZE LEBANESE PRESS AS CORRUPT. REACTION RE-
FLECTS GOE CONCERN THAT LEBANESE INSTABILITY WILL DETRACT
FROM PEACE PROCESS, COULD LEAD TO WIDER CONFLICT, AND BE
FURTHER CAUSE FOR ARAB DISUNITY. END SUMMARY.

1. PRESS JUNE 16 REPORTS FORMIN KAMEL'S STATEMENT
DEPLORING LATEST INCIDENTS IN LEBANON AS "EXTREMELY
REGRETTABLE". KAMEL EXPRESSED HOPE ALL PARTIES WOULD BE
AWARE OF CONSEQUENCES THESE EVENTS FOR LEBANON AND ALL
ARAB STATES. HE HOPED EVENTS WOULD NOT SERVE AS "PRE-
TEXT FOR FOREIGN INTERVENTIONS".

2. AHRAH EDITORIAL DEPLORES FACT CONFLICT HAS WIDENED
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CAIRO 15256 161558Z

TO INCLUDE "OUTSIDERS FROM ARAB AND INTERNATIONAL ARENA".
WHAT HAPPENING IN LEBANON "SERVES ISRAELI INTERESTS
AND IS "MAINLY DIRECTED AGAINST LEBANON AND THE ARAB
NATION". UNLESS "SOME ARAB CAPITALS" TAKE THEIR HANDS
OFF LEBANON'S DESTINY, MORE DESTRUCTION AND HATRED WILL
FOLLOW. EDITORIAL CALLS ON ALL LEBANESE PARTIES TO
WORK FOR SAKE OF UNIFIED LEBANON. FORMER AKHBAR EDITOR-

IN-CHIEF MUSTAFA AMIN, WRITING IN AKHBAR YESTERDAY, ALSO SAID ISRAEL ONLY BENEFICIARY AND WHAT LEBANESE DOING TO EACH OTHER IS "MORE FEROCIOUS" THAN WHAT ISRAELIS DOING TO LEBANESE. BUT AMIN IS ALSO CRITICAL OF LEBANESE WHO DO NOT REALIZE GRAVITY OF PROBLEM AND THEREFORE HAVE ONLY THEMSELVES TO BLAME. AMIN CRITICIZES LEBANESE SECTARIANISM, BLAMING IT FOR "RUINING LEBANON". THIS "LESSON" FOR ANYONE TRYING TO CREATE SECTARIANISM "IN ANY ARAB COUNTRY".

3. AHRAM BOARD CHAIRMAN ALI HAMDI AL GAMAL AND AKHBAR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF MOUSSA SABRI CRITICIZED RECENT STATEMENTS BY LEBANESE PRESS SYNDICATE PRESIDENT RIAD TAHA, WHO ALLEGED FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION BEING REPRESSED IN EGYPT. GAMAL ACCUSES TAHA OF "OPPORTUNISM" AND ASKS WHERE TAHA WAS WHEN LEBANESE PRESS "WAS SUBJECTED TO THE MOST STRINGENT FORMS OF SYRIAN CENSORSHIP". SABRI CHARGES LEBANESE PRESS "CORRUPT", ACCUSING LEBANESE PAPERS OF EXPRESSING NOT LEBANON'S INTERESTS, BUT INTERESTS OF "ARAB AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES" WHO CAME TO OWN THOSE PAPERS AND PAY THEIR EDITORS.

4. COMMENT: COVERAGE CONTINUES REFLECT GOE CONCERN THAT INSTABILITY IN LEBANON: (A) WILL DISTRACT FROM PEACE PROCESS, (B) IGNITE WIDER CONFLICT, AND (C) CAUSE GREATER ARAB DISUNITY. CRITICISM OF LEBANESE PRESS PART OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 CAIRO 15256 161558Z

WIDER DEFENSE OF GOE'S INVESTIGATION OF JOURNALISTS UNDER NEW LAW TO PROTECT HOME FRONT. EILTS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CAIRO15256
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780253-0969
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780652/aaaabsmh.tel
Line Count: 96
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7c2ae287-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2326955
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EGYPTIAN CONCERN ABOUT LEBANON SUMMARY. PRESS JUNE 16 CONVEYS MESSAGE THAT INSTABIITY IN LEBANON DANGER TO ARAB WORLD AND ALLOWS UNSCRUP
TAGS: PBOR, PGOV, EG, LE, XF
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7c2ae287-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014